

## DEPARTMENT 400 – PLANT SCIENCES



### CLASS 42 – HORTICULTURE

Exhibitor is **required to interview** and **notebook is mandatory at interview**. Vegetables, Fruit and Flower exhibits that **DO NOT** have the required number of items will not be judged for awards. Exhibits will be judged for uniformity, maturity, various characteristics, free from disease, insects and injury. Vases/containers are to be provided by exhibitor, use creativity as the type of container enhances your display. However, container will not be considered in judging. **Foam cups or tin cans will not be allowed.** Exhibitor **must use flowers/vegetables grown in own garden.**



**“Vegetables at Fair”** – All vegetables & fruit must be exhibited on a white 9” paper/foam plate and placed into a plastic bag. For all root vegetables cut the tops off, leaving approximately ¾ inch of top intact with the root. Wash roots gently to avoid injury to the skin. If storage is necessary, put them in a cool, moist place. Root crops include beets, carrots, radishes, rutabagas, turnips, parsnips, artichokes, horseradish, etc. Head Lettuce – trim lower leaves from heads and do not leave roots intact. Choose large, heavy or solid heads. Remove the roots and underground portion of stem but leave crown of Swiss Chard-Endive-Leaf Lettuce-Kohlrabi-Parsley-Dill-Spinach, etc.; wash if needed and keep in a moist & cool place. Onions: approximately 1 week prior to Fair, pull and twist tops; remove outer layer of (dirty) skin. Spread them in an open shed so air will pass over them until fair time. Remove the tops and clip off roots; avoid damaging the node or basal plate. Choose well-formed bulbs; avoid “doubles”, thick necks, etc. Green Onions/Leeks: Dig immediately prior to going to fair; avoid damage to node or basal plate. Remove outer layer of skin to get soil off; wash. Choose specimens that are well blanched or white. Corn: Husk leaving 2-3 layers for protection against drying. Cut off stem back to the outer layer of husk. Choose well-pollinated and well-developed ears with good tip cover/fill, in the “milk stage”. Cucumbers: Harvest by cutting stems; leave approximately ¼ inch of stem; avoid injury to fruit. Wash if necessary; choose well-shaped specimens. Kohlrabi: Remove roots, but leave above ground portion of stem. Remove leaves; avoid injury to the skin. Tenderness is important. Peas: Choose ones that are sweet, moist, and tender; not bitter, dry, tough or woody. Wash if necessary. Potatoes: Immediately after digging allow the skin to “set”. Avoid rough handling or cuts, skinning or bruising; wash gently. Select medium to large sizes that are smooth and free of defect. Rhubarb: Remove all green portion of leaf; leave base of petiole (stem) intact. Wash; stalks must be tender and juicy. Summer Squash: Leave stem; choose tender specimens. For the long type, they may be 5-8 inches long. For the round type and crooked necks, choose those that are very tender and succulent. Some types are ready for use as soon as the blossom has withered. Tomatoes (red): Remove stems; wash and avoid injury. Choose those free of cracking. Green Tomatoes: Leave stems; choose specimens that aren’t turning red.

**LOT 4210 Level 1 – Budding Gardeners**

**LOT 4220 Level 2 – Branching Out**

**LOT 4230 Level 3 – Digging Deeper**



### THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF ITEMS YOU MAY ENTER – SPECIFY ON ENTRY FORM.

**Annuals Vase** (3 blooms with foliage)

**Perennials Vase** (3 blooms without foliage)

**Herbs Vase** (3 stems)

**Floral Patio Pot**

**Herbal Patio Pot**

**Vegetable Patio Pot**

**Fruit Patio Pot**

**Fair Theme Container Display** Must Include Current Fair Flower

**Vegetable Plate** (3)

**Fruit Plate** (3)

**Educational Display** (May include Poster, Notebook, Picture Story Book, etc.) Specify Level

**Other**

Be sure to specify on entry form description what you are entering – (i.e. roses, daisies or carrots, tomatoes, etc.).

First Year – limited to 4 entries; Second Year – limited to 6 entries; Third Year – limited to 8 entries; no limits thereafter.



**LOT 4299 Independent Study** (must comply with all project requirements)